



**NEVADA COMMISSION ON  
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS  
PUBLIC WORKSHOP  
MINUTES**

**FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014  
10:30 AM to 1:30 PM**

**MEETING LOCATIONS**

Grant Sawyer Legislative Building  
555 E. Washington Ave., Room 4401  
Las Vegas, NV 89101-1072

***VIDEOCONFERENCE TO:***

Legislative Building  
401 S. Carson Street, 3137  
Carson City, NV 89701-4747

High Tech Center  
1500 College Parkway, Room 137  
Elko, NV

***Agenda items may be taken out of the order listed on the agenda. The items maybe combined for consideration. Items may be delayed or removed at any time.***

**#1—Roll Call of Commission Members**

Ms. Crandy called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM  
Commissioners Mary Liveratti, Jan Crandy, and Keri Altig were present.  
Ralph Toddre was absent.  
Scott Reynolds was absent.  
A quorum was present.

**#2—Public Comment**

Ms. Crandy welcomed all to the Autism Committee Public Workshop Five Year Strategic Plan. Public comment will be allowed throughout the work group meeting.  
No public comment from Carson City.

**#3—Meeting Minutes** will be approved at the next Meeting in June.

Ms. Crandy- Meeting Announcement- Carson City did receive announcements about meeting- by email. Las Vegas did not receive meeting announcement-Ms. Crandy placed the meeting announcement on her Facebook page.

Subcommittee groups will begin in July. Ms. Crandy invited everyone who wants to participate to join in.

### **Agenda Item No 5**

Legislative Health Committee May 7<sup>th</sup> will be videoed between Elko/Las Vegas and Carson City. Testimony shared publically- Ms. Crandy's testimony as a Commissioner included.

Highlights- Goal to address and justify Medicaid coverage/ urgency to start treatment earlier/insurance barriers/supportive ATAP.

Attention: Binder of handouts for meetings present in Carson City. All Documents supporting Agenda Item No 4 for workgroup today. All are available.

No Comment on May 7<sup>th</sup> testimony from Carson City.

Development of 5 Year Strategic Plan. Mr. Olsen commended on putting together Process Overview. Hard copies available.

Mr. Olsen- Documents meant to provide structure to put a plan together. Wanted to give guidance to parents and others for goals. Process and methodology. There is a lot more work to be done in our state and other states and a lot to build on. Near term goals- a lot has been done. No need to wait on meetings and research; action can be right away. Solutions and projects those are ready. Legislature coming up next year. It takes time to get people ready for testimony. Readiness for the July meeting, what can be pulled out right away, and what it would take to do that. Then next set of full term goals are very aspirational. The point is to really reach into what we are doing. There is a lot more that can be accomplished.

Mr. Olsen-**100% reach.** There has got to be a way to figure out where every person with autism is. There has got to be a way to do that. Anything less than 100% is saying we are willing to let a person diagnosed to be overlooked, and that is not acceptable. How do we find adults and get services to them?

**Capacity-** Some programs might work better if we have more resources to serve them. There has been a surge in need, and how do we grow capacity? Find efficiencies/ how to serve people with less money.

**Policies** are in places that are actual barriers for moving forward. What needs to be known about how to do business in the state of NV? How do we look at bigger things?

**Subcommittees-** fewer focused on broader range of service.

Transportation. What are the full ranges of things that are available?

Looking at groups is a more relevant way to look at things. This should be a continuum. Parents should be able to come into the state and be able to obtain what is available for a 4 year old as well as what is available for a 20 year old.

Subcommittees-parent driven- minimum core voting number – proposed 5-flexible to debate. Only need 3 of those to vote.

Plans needs to be aspirational. We need to access what they need by age group. Then figure out, which of these things we have today, so how to we look forward and access what will be needed in the future. Leadership of subcommittees needs to be the parent advocates, rather than agencies. This also allows the agencies to be aspirational as well and allows for everyone to work all together. Self-advocates at the table would be great also.

**Age breakdowns-** school age kids can stay in school until they are 22. 0-5 suggested 0 to 6 years old.

**Groups overlap transition.**

18- Adulthood gain SSI/ Aging- increasing issue in housing/employment settings. Services and waivers change. Dealing with disability and senior population.

**Geographic areas-** everybody/all voices are important. Rural geography is a challenging role. Look forward to have others from rural areas to participate. Awareness needs to get out there and provide some advertising.

Create a 1 page document for schools/nonprofits/agencies get it out thru email. Facebook page also suggested providing information.

Include folks from the County/ need to do a focus to see who needs to be on committees. The point is to try and reach as many people out there as possible.

**Appendix A.** Took a look at other States topics i.e. Health and Wellness standpoint/ education/ medical services/ transition/funding and finance- where do we get the money to survey services/ how do we teach families to manage personal finances to plan ahead. **Able Act** Massachusetts has a statewide able act. - Savings program you can put money away tax free. That is significant. You can accumulate wealth and a training program of how to save for the future.

Insurance continues to be an issue. Not enough direct care physicians. Blog post discussed written by a mom of a severely impacted individual. This blog provides a place where parents can share with others that understand. Parents were feeling isolated and ignored.

Addressing and teaching first responders is very important to helping others. We need crisis intervention programs. Crisis feeds crisis and we just don't have enough of those resources. There is a need to be able to address.

**Scope of Work**

**Social and recreational programs-** only 2 programs available.

**Transportation-** parent transport- huge issue in rural.

**Self-determination-** right for those services to be paid. We need to educate others on this.

**Laws and Regulations** that are barriers.

**Law Enforcement and First Responders.**

**Accessibility-** effectively communicated.

**Quality Insurance and Measurability-**

**Sustainability-** How to keep it going over time. Funding/parent involvement.

**Data-** data systems are not very friendly.

Not all issues matter in same proportion to each age group. At some time there will be a need to prioritize.

Consistencies come into play also.

This is a State of Nevada plan and everyone needs to work together.

**Facilitator details** – looking at hiring part time person to work with the commission. To organize rooms and meeting times. Someone to facilitate and work together/ July 1<sup>st</sup> launch day

Pull the pieces together /minutes as well. Someone to facilitate meetings.

Sources of data- structure/what we want/where can we find participants/new groups and new information is out there that needs to be part of this

Important dates- Original task force set deadline of 9/1 especially items for legislature.

Time to get ready is now. Annual report to Governor at end of year. 2015 legislature and testimony. Important to get families together to testify and time to on legislatures now.

Time is of the essence. A letter should be sent out asking others to be involved/invite people/ask for volunteers. How can this happen? Jan will make a flyer will get that out. A meeting will be scheduled for June.

July is already scheduled. For June actively look for participants to serve.

Solicit volunteers and pointedly ask those that would be of benefits.

Mr. Olsen will volunteer for aging.

Thomas Kapp is the New Part C Coordinator introduced himself and his experience. Thomas Kapp would like to see an adult with autism on the committee for aging Thomas would like to be on childhood committee.

There can be as many people on the committee as possible. There will be a limited number that can vote. This will aid in getting a quorum so committees can vote and move forward. There are ways to involve people and have them serve.

### **Work Group Introductions:**

Elko- Ms. Ward- addressed the different needs in rural than others. Simple needs such as transportation/Education / diagnostics etc. When Ms. Ward sits on a committee she is asking for things that others already have. Other states have large rural areas and have the same issues we do.

How can we move/share resources to rural?

**Rural Area Needs** to be more creative. Schools look very different than they do in larger Counties. All rural areas have fewer services. One of the most important things a rural community can do is build their community. It is important to learn from the big cities and create their own 5 year plan. It may be beneficial to have a subcommittee to address just rural areas.

Ms. Crandy suggested each committee's voting sector has one representative from rural. If rurals have a subcommittee it is important the rural still participate on the main committees to avoid isolation and to report back. Sidekicks/best buddies were suggested for rural. Qualifying and bonding those that could be aids in transportation. Rurals have specific and different needs.

Rurals have a benefit of self-determination/self-directed funds/use providers of choice. The hope is it will be available state wide.

Michelle- Money follows the person- Aging is participating across the board.

Martha- Early intervention

Dana Sims- agrees issues in rural need to be addressed.

Carson Comments- Julie EI Statewide- early childhood subcommittee interested in serving on a committee.

Ms. Liveratti- would like a list of families who would like to participate.

Ms. Crandy- advertise a little bit better so a large group of folks will participate. It needs to go to everybody. Commission knows who's involved/passionate and vote for committee chairs and go from there.

Has others who are interested. Chair can decide who voting members are of each committee.

Ms. Liveratti feels it is very important that chair selects and obtains a commitment from chairs.

**Goal for June Meeting-** vote of chairs as of July 1<sup>st</sup> they can be scheduling meetings and moving forward.

### **Public Comment**

Las Vegas- Rochelle Reynolds- writing a report for school. Concerns with insurance and providers and the wait list time. This is an issue her family is facing. Will be interested in helping on new committees. She has 2 children 18 mos apart and shared her experience with services provided. Wants to make sure services are available to families like hers and continue to grow Dolce- Mother of Miguel. ATAP changed her life. Her family is together. Her son is becoming social, attending regular school. First time to Commissions Meeting very grateful for her new skills and wants to help other parents.

Language and cultural population outreach has to be very high.

Brooke- Interpreters needed at sub committees. Brooke will look into this possibility

Valerie Soto- parent of 2 children with autism. Her son received early intervention and is doing very well. Her daughter received services at an older age and there is a difference. There is hope in her son's future. Would like to participate on subcommittee education program services/treatment services.

Leslie Nelson NDE- Autism Technical Assistant in the State. Has notified Special Education Directors she is available. She is present to help with education aspect and provide what expertise she can.

Ms. Crandy- Skype and tele-med discussion for rural counties.

Mary-next steps prior to June Meeting.

Ms. Crandy- Facebook page commission page and subcommittee pages

Mr. Olsen- Create flyer out to other agencies

You tube- as potential training – will check on open meeting laws.

Ms Crandy Looking for chairs- commission members

June Meeting will be held June 10<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am 3 way video conference

Plan on attending May 7<sup>th</sup> hearing 9am Las Vegas videoed to Carson City and Elko/Ms. Ward testifying

No other comments on Item No 4.

No other public comment

Follow up

Ms. Liveratti to request Angela to make clear where documents are posted on website . Make it a little easier for people to obtain documents. Will be asking documents be uploaded more and more. Commission has their own

document site already. Make sure all docs are linked and aligned for easy access.

Gov. Sandoval did an executive order pertaining to commission and should be included in document prepared by Mark Olson. Anything to do with commission should all be in one place so not to lose historical knowledge.

Motion to adjourn: Ms Crandy

Ms. Liveratti moved to adjourn

Seconded by Keri.

All in Favor